



Executive Department
State of Idaho

The Office of the Governor
Proclamation

State Capitol
Boise

WHEREAS, vaccine preventable childhood diseases are recognized as causing severe illness, developmental disabilities and death; and

WHEREAS, approximately 25 percent of Idaho children 24 months of age and younger are unprotected against one or more of the vaccine preventable childhood illnesses; and

WHEREAS, in 1991, Idaho battled a measles epidemic, and in 1994, 1997, 1998, and 2001, Idaho had major pertussis (whooping cough) outbreaks; and

WHEREAS, in the last ten years Idaho has had more than 30 deaths attributes to vaccine preventable diseases; and

WHEREAS, public health experts predict that inadequate levels of immunizations may lead to serious outbreaks of vaccine preventable diseases; and

WHEREAS, health care providers and communities can make a difference by spreading the word about the need for immunizations and by supporting efforts to ensure that children are vaccinated in the first two years of life; and

WHEREAS, IRIS, Idaho's voluntary Immunization Reminder Information System, has over 37,700 children age two and under and over 270 providers accessing and submitting records to the system; and

WHEREAS, Idaho's immunization rate among children 24 months of age continues to rise;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DIRK KEMPTHORNE, Governor of the State of Idaho, do hereby proclaim the month of April 2003, to be

INFANT IMMUNIZATION MONTH

in Idaho.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Idaho at the Capitol in Boise on this first day of April in the year of our Lord two-thousand and three and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred twenty-seventh and of the Statehood of Idaho the one hundred thirteenth.

A handwritten signature of Dirk Kempthorne in black ink, written over a horizontal line.

DIRK KEMPTHORNE
GOVERNOR

A handwritten signature of Devin Isurua in black ink, written over a horizontal line.

DEVIN ISURUA
SECRETARY OF STATE